AP US History

Chapter 11 Study Guide – Slaves and Masters

*Chapter Summary*

Slavery played a central role in the history of the United States allowing for [unfree labor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unfree_labor) to exist as a legal institution on American soil before and after the founding of the United States in 1776. Debate over slavery increasingly dominated American politics, leading eventually to the nation's only civil war, which in turn finally brought slavery to an end with the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution in 1865. After emancipation, overcoming slavery's legacy remained a crucial issue in American history, leading to the Civil Rights Movement a century later.

The Divided Society of the Old South

1. Answer the following questions
   1. What were some of the effects of Nat Turner Rebellion on African American slaves in South Hampton Virginia, 1831?
   2. Why was the South so dependant on slave labor?
   3. Explain how (two ways) inequality was determined in the Old South?
   4. What percentage of the whites in the South in 1860 were large plantation owners with dozens of slaves?
   5. Where did the greatest majority of slaves live?

The World of Southern Blacks

1. Answer the following questions
   1. How did masters of agrarian communities sought to ensure their personal safety and profitability?
   2. How are African American slaves different from other slave communities outside of the United States?
2. Slaves Daily Life and Labor
   1. What was the slave population in the “Cotton Belt?”
   2. Why was the growing of cotton such a difficult lifestyle for African American slaves?
   3. What jobs did about a quarter of the slave population perform outside of the field?
   4. What jobs did slaves take up in the cities?
   5. Explain the underground economy that existed in the South?
3. Slave Families, Kinship, and Community
   1. Explain the difference of family and kinship on large plantations in the lower South to small plantations in the upper South?
   2. When slave families were broken up by sale, individual members of that broken family tended to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ into new kinship networks.
   3. How did kinship relationships help strengthen slave communities?
4. African American Religion
   1. What was the cornerstone of African American culture?
   2. Who was the founder of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church?
   3. Explain underground black Christianity known as “the invisible institution?”
   4. Why were most African American slave sermons and songs focused on the crossing of Jordan or the arrival in the Promise Land?
   5. How did the Bible give African Americans hope?
5. Resistance and Rebellion
   1. Name three specific examples of slave rebellion from 1800-1831.
   2. In what way would most slaves (peacefully) protest their enslavement?
   3. Explain the Underground Railroad?
   4. Why was it difficult for slaves to run away (give two reasons)?
   5. Give three examples of passive resistance of slaves working on plantations?
6. Free Blacks in the Old South
   1. What laws (list four) were passed in the South to keep an eye on free African Americans?
   2. Explain the federal fugitive slave law?
   3. How did most free black find survival in the South?

White Society in the Antebellum South

1. Answer the following questions
   1. What percentage of people owned more than 50 slaves in the deep South?
   2. What were most Southern whites?
2. The Planters’ World
   1. Where did a large proportion of slaveholders come from?
   2. How did most plantation mistresses live their life?
3. Planters, Racism, and Paternalism
   1. How did Southern planters view their slave?
   2. Explain what “racial scientists” developed in their theories about African American slaves?
   3. Why was the physical condition of slaves of great importance to the slave owner?
   4. How were large plantation owners not paternalistic toward his field slaves?
4. Small Slaveholders
   1. What groups of people were in the business of owning fewer then 10 slaves?
   2. Why did most slaves want to live on plantations rather then small farms?
5. Yeomen Farmers
   1. Who were yeomen farmers?
   2. Describe the life of a yeoman and the life of his wife?
   3. What reasons are given to why yeomen supported slavery?
6. A Closed Mind and a Closed Society
   1. What were the two fears of the dominant planter class?
   2. Explain the purpose of the American Colonization Society?
   3. What did slave owners mean by “positive good?”
   4. The proslavery argument was based on what three ideas?
   5. Turn to page 322, look at the two pictures and read the caption below. What argument is being portrayed from these pictures?

Slavery and the Southern Economy

1. Answer the following questions
   1. What can attribute to the slave population tripling in size from 1810 to 1860?
2. The Internal Slave Trade
   1. Why did slave prices increase?
   2. What was the wrenching part of the internal slave trade in the United States?
   3. Why were Virginians, Marylanders, and Kentuckians divided about their future?
3. The Rise of Cotton Kingdom
   1. The rise of what short-staple crop continued to increase the number of slaves needed in the Deep South?
   2. What did the invention of the cotton gin end up doing for slavery?
   3. How many more (give a number) bales of cotton did the South produce from 1817 to 1860?
   4. How much did cotton account for in dollar value of American exports?
   5. Why did southern planters have little incentive to seek alternatives to slavery?
4. Slavery and Industrialization
   1. What did J.D.B. DeBow want to see happen to the Southern economy?
5. The “Profitability” Issue
   1. What have many historians concluded about slavery up to the Civil War?
   2. According to some historians what two things would have allowed slavery in the South to continue?